

PATENT

Atty Docket No.: 100111406-2

App. Ser. No.: 09/995,320

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please find below a listing of all of the pending claims. The statuses of the claims are set forth in parentheses.

1. (Currently amended) A computer-based method performed in a first transaction-tax-related application of a first program controlled apparatus, the method comprising the step of:

exchanging transaction-related data with at least a second transaction-tax-related application of a second program controlled apparatus according to a standardized transaction-tax interface data model, wherein the standardized transaction-tax interface data model provides an interface model which enables communications between the first transaction-tax-related application and the second transaction-tax-related application.

2. (Previously Presented) The method set forth in claim 1, wherein the first transaction-tax-related application uses a first application-specific data model, the method further comprising the step of:

mapping data elements of the first application-specific data model to data elements of the standardized transaction-tax interface data model, or vice versa.

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3. (Previously Presented) The method set forth in claim 2, being further performed in the second transaction-tax-related application, which uses a second application-specific data model, the method comprising the step of:

mapping data elements which are exchanged according to the standardized transaction-tax interface model to data elements of the second application-specific data model, or vice versa.

4. (Previously Presented) The method set forth in claim 3, wherein the first and second application-specific data models are different from the standardized transaction-tax interface model.

5. (Previously Presented) The method set forth in claim 3, wherein the first and second application-specific data models are different from each other.

6. (Previously Presented) The method set forth in claim 1, wherein the first transaction-tax-related application uses a first application-specific data model, the first application-specific data model corresponding to the standardized transaction-tax interface data model.

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7. (Currently amended) A computer-based method performed in a transaction-tax-related data warehouse application, the method comprising the step of:

storing transaction-related data received from at least one other transaction-tax-related application in a data warehouse of a program controlled apparatus according to a standardized transaction-tax data warehouse data model, wherein the standardized transaction-tax interface data model provides an interface model which enables communications between the transaction-tax-related data warehouse application and the at least one other transaction-tax-related application.

8. (Previously Presented) The method set forth in claim 7, further comprising the step of exchanging transaction-related data stored or to be stored in the data warehouse with the other transaction-tax-related application according to a standardized transaction-tax interface data model.

9. (Previously Presented) The method set forth in claim 8, wherein the tax-related data warehouse data model has a set of transaction-tax-related data elements and the standardized transaction-tax interface data model has a set of transaction-tax-related data elements, wherein the set of transaction-tax-related data elements of the tax-related data warehouse data model comprises, equals or is a subset of the set of transaction-tax-related data elements of a standardized transaction-tax interface data model.

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10. (Previously Presented) The method set forth in claim 1, wherein at least one of the first and the second transaction-tax-related transaction applications are one of the following modules:

- i) a transaction tax logging module,
- ii) a transaction tax compliance module,
- iii) a transaction tax filing module,
- iv) a transaction tax calculation module,
- v) a transaction tax content module, and
- vi) a transaction tax database for storing transaction-related data.

11. (Previously Presented) The method set forth in claim 1, wherein at least one of the first and the second transaction-tax-related applications is one of a basic and a micro service module.

12. (Previously Presented) The method set forth in claim 2, wherein the way the mapping is governed is defined by rules that are configurable by a user.

13. (Previously Presented) The method set forth in claim 12, wherein the rules are implemented by a lookup table.

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14. (Currently amended) A memory device of a program controlled apparatus housing a data record according to a standardized transaction-tax interface data model, wherein the standardized transaction-tax interface data model provides an interface model which enables communications between transaction-tax-related applications, the data record comprising transaction-related data items, for the data exchange between at least one or both of the transaction-tax-related applications [[or]]and modules.

15. (Currently amended) The data-record memory device set forth in claim 14, wherein the transaction-tax interface data model, on which the data record is based, is defined so as to provide data elements at least for a first jurisdiction and a second jurisdiction, wherein the transaction-tax interface data model has at least one first data element which is used for the first jurisdiction, but is not used for the second jurisdiction, and at least one second data element which is used for the second jurisdiction, but is not used for the first jurisdiction.

16. (Currently amended) The data-record memory device set forth in claim 14, which is exchanged as an argument when a transaction-tax-related application or module is invoked.

17. (Currently amended) The data-record memory device set forth in claim 16, wherein the transaction-tax-related application or module is invoked by an HTTP request, and the exchanged argument is an XML document forming a part of the HTTP request.

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18. (Currently amended) A program controlled apparatus having a software interface for linking a first transaction-tax-related application with at least a second transaction-tax-related application, wherein the interface is implemented such that data is exchangeable between the first and the second transaction-tax-related application according to a standardized transaction-tax interface data model, wherein the standardized transaction-tax interface data model provides an interface model which enables communications between the transaction-tax-related application and the at least one other transaction-tax-related application.

19. (Currently amended) The software-interface program controlled apparatus set forth in claim 18, wherein the first transaction-tax-related application uses a first application-specific data model, the software interface comprising a first mapping component for mapping data elements of the first application-specific data model to data elements according to the standardized transaction-tax interface data model, or vice versa.

20. (Currently amended) The software-interface program controlled apparatus set forth in claim 18, wherein the second transaction-tax-related application uses a second application-specific data model, the software interface comprising a second mapping component for mapping data elements, which are exchanged according to the standardized transaction-tax interface model, to data elements of a second application-specific data model, or vice versa.

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21. (Currently amended) The ~~software-interface~~ program controlled apparatus set forth in claim 20, wherein the first and second application-specific data models are different from the standardized transaction-tax interface model.

22. (Currently amended) The ~~software-interface~~ program controlled apparatus set forth in claim 20, wherein the first and second application-specific data models are different from each other.

23. (Currently amended) The ~~software-interface~~ program controlled apparatus set forth in claim 18, wherein the first transaction-tax-related application uses a first application-specific data model, said first application-specific data model corresponds to the standardized transaction-tax interface data model.

24. (Currently amended) A memory device of a program controlled apparatus, the device housing a computer-based data warehouse module configured for storing transaction-related data received from at least one other transaction-tax-related application according to a standardized transaction-tax data warehouse data model, wherein the standardized transaction-tax interface data model provides an interface model which enables communications between the transaction-tax-related data warehouse module and the at least one other transaction-tax-related application.

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25. (Currently amended) The ~~module~~ memory device set forth in claim 24, comprising a software interface for linking the data warehouse module with at least a second transaction-tax-related application, said software interface being implemented such that data is exchangeable between the data warehouse application module and the second transaction-tax-related application according to a standardized transaction-tax interface data model.

26. (Currently amended) The ~~module~~ memory device set forth in claim 25, wherein the tax-related data warehouse data model has a set of transaction-tax-related data elements and the standardized transaction-tax interface data model has a set of transaction-tax-related data elements, the set of transaction-tax-related data elements of the tax-related data warehouse data model comprises, equals or is a subset of the set of transaction-tax-related data elements of the standardized transaction-tax interface data model.

27. (Currently amended) The interface program controlled apparatus set forth in claim 18, wherein at least one of the first and second transaction-tax-related transaction applications are one of the following modules:

- i) a transaction tax logging service module,
- ii) a transaction tax compliance module,
- iii) a transaction tax filing module,
- iv) a transaction tax calculation module,
- v) a transaction tax content module, and
- vi) a transaction tax database for storing transaction-related data.

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28. (Currently amended) The interface program controlled apparatus set forth in claim 18, wherein at least one of the first and second transaction-tax-related applications is one of a basic and a micro service module.

29. (Currently amended) The interface program controlled apparatus set forth in claim 18, wherein the mapping component enables a user to input and configure rules which define how the data element mapping is performed.

30. (Currently amended) The interface program controlled apparatus set forth in claim 29, wherein the rules are implemented via a lookup table.

31. (Currently amended) The module memory device set forth in claim 24, wherein at least one of the first and second transaction-tax-related transaction applications are one of the following modules:

- i) a transaction tax logging service module,
- ii) a transaction tax compliance module,
- iii) a transaction tax filing module,
- iv) a transaction tax calculation module,
- v) a transaction tax content module, and
- vi) a transaction tax database for storing transaction-related data.

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32. (Currently amended) The module memory device set forth in claim 24, wherein at least one of the first and second transaction-tax-related applications is one of a basic and a micro'service module.

33. (Currently amended) The module memory device set forth in claim 24, wherein the mapping component enables a user to input and configure rules which define how the data element mapping is performed.

34. (Currently amended) The module memory device set forth in claim 33, wherein the rules are implemented via a lookup table.

35. (Currently amended) A transaction-tax-related software application of a program controlled apparatus, said transaction-tax-related software application being embedded on a computer readable medium, the application including an interface for linking the application with at least a second transaction-tax-related application, the interface being implemented such that data is exchangeable between the first and the second transaction-tax-related applications according to a standardized transaction-tax interface data model, wherein the standardized transaction-tax interface data model provides an interface model which enables communications between the first transaction-tax-related application and at least a second transaction-tax-related application.